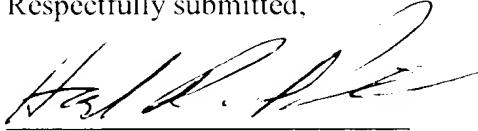


REMARKS

The specification of the subject application has been amended to update the status of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/387,084 (which is now issued U.S. Patent No. 6,356,033). In addition, the specification has also been amended to show the full chain of priority of U.S. Patent No. 6,356,033 back to its original filings (PCT/US99/09659 and 60/083,882).

In view of the above, the present application should now be in condition for early action on the merits and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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